

News Release

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Workers at Martinsville's Mag Incorproated eligible for federal aid

INDIANAPOLIS (July 20, 2006) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has ruled that former employees of Martinsville's Mag Incorporated are eligible to receive federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released. The investigation began May 19, 2006, in response to a petition filed on behalf of workers.

The Department of Labor investigation revealed that there were declines in employment and sales at Mag Inc. from January to April 2006, as compared to the same time period the previous year. Furthermore, the investigation revealed that the subject firm was a supplier of component parts to a firm that manufactured televisions and that employed workers who received a certification of eligibility to apply for trade adjustment assistance and the loss of business with this firm contributed importantly to worker separations at Mag Inc. Consequently, workers at the Martinsville plant qualified for TAA benefits and the findings were certified on June 29, 2006. With the ruling, any employee who has been or will be totally or partially separated from employment on or after May 18, 2005 through June 29, 2008 is eligible to apply for adjustment assistance.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

Eligible parties may contact the Bloomington WorkOne at (812) 331-6000, or any WorkOne Center for more information.